

## Message Text

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73 S  
ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 SSO-00 CCO-00 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01

SP-02 SAM-01 SAB-01 OMB-01 IO-10 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /062 W  
----- 093789

O R 172330Z MAR 75 ZFF-6

FM USDEL ASWAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0170

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINFO WAHDC

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY RIYADH

UNCLAS USDEL ASWAN 0211

SECTO 343

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HRNEY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS BRIEFING BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ANDERSON  
AND EGYPTIAN SPOKESMAN BASHIR FOLLOWING MARCH 17, 1975,  
EVENING MEETING IN ASWAN BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND  
PRESIDENT SADAT.

REF: STATE 24911

1. SUBJECT BRIEFING FOLLOWS: QUOTE

2. AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: AS WAS THE CASE THE OTHER NIGHT  
FOLLOWING A PREVIOUS MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND  
SECRETARY KISSINGER, AMBASSADOR BASHIR AND I WERE BRIEFED  
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BY THE PRINCIPALS. THE MEETING TONIGHT BEGAN AT 7:00 PM,

FINISHED ABOUT 8:45 PM. THE PRINCIPALS ON EACH SIDE WERE: ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE PRESIDENT SADAT, FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY AND MINISTER OF WAR GAMASY, AND ON THE AMERICAN SIDE SECRETARY KISSINGER, AMBASSADOR EILTS AND UNDER SECRETARY SISCO. THE BREAKDOWN OF THE MEETING: THE FIRST HOUR THE TWO TEAMS MET, THE LAST 45 MINUTES THE PRESIDENT MET ALONE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. THE TWO SIDES WILL MEET TOMORROW MORNING, PROBABLY AROUND 11:00 A.M. AMBASSADOR BASHIR WANTED TO COMMENT TO YOU ABOUT WHAT THE EGYPTIAN SIDE IS DOING NOW, AND THEN I WILL HAVE ONE MORE COMMENT.

3. AMBASSADOR BASHIR: THE PRESIDENT WILL HAVE A WORKING DINNER WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY AND WAR MINISTER GAMASY. MR. KISSINGER PRESENTED THE ISRAELIS' SPECIFIC IDEAS AND THE PRESIDENT AND THE EGYPTIAN TEAM WILL BE STUDYING THEM TONIGHT. TOMORROW THEY ARE EXPECTING TO GIVE MR. KISSINGER AND HIS TEAM THE EGYPTIAN RESPONSE TO THESE IDEAS. THE GENERAL MOOD OF THE TALKS WAS SERIOUS AND WE FEEL THAT WE NEED SERIOUS AND HARD WORK TO TACKLE THE ISSUES PRESENTED. THANK YOU.

4. ANDERSON: THE AMBASSADOR COVERED THE ONE OR TWO POINTS I WAS GOING TO COVER. THAT WAS THE SPECIFIC ISRAELI IDEAS BEING PRESENTED BY DR. KISSINGER, BECAUSE I HAD OMITTED THAT EARLIER.

5. QUESTION: COULD EITHER OF YOU COMMENT ABOUT THE RELATIVE SHORTNESS OF THE MEETING ITSELF, THE HOUR AND FORTY MINUTES VERSUS THE NEARLY THREE HOUR MEETINGS THAT WERE HELD PREVIOUSLY? IS THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE IN THE RELATIVE BREVITY OF TONIGHT'S TALKS?

6. ANSWER: ANDERSON: I ATTACH NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE RELATIVE BREVITY OF TONIGHT'S TALKS. THE SECRETARY, AS I SAID EARLIER, HAD SUFFICIENT TIME TO PRESENT THE SPECIFIC IDEAS OF THE ISRAELIS, AND NOW, AS AMBASSADOR BASHIR SAID, THE EGYPTIAN SIDE WILL BE STUDYING THESE IDEAS. AFTER ALL, THE TWO SIDES ARE GOING TO BE MEETING TOMORROW MORNING AGAIN SO THERE WILL BE PLENTY OF TIME FOR FURTHER TALKS.

7. QUESTION: AMBASSADOR BASHIR, COULD YOU SAY IF THERE UNCLASSIFIED

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IS ANY INITIAL EGYPTIAN REACTION AT ALL, EVEN IN TERMS OF MOOD?

8. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: I JUST WANTED TO ADD THAT THE BREVITY COMES FROM THE FACT THAT MR. KISSINGER WAS PRESENTING THE ISRAELIS' SPECIFIC IDEAS AND WE FEEL THAT THESE MATTERS ARE SERIOUS. WE NEED A LOT OF HARD WORK TO TACKLE THESE ISSUES. TOMORROW THE EGYPTIAN TEAM WILL BE PRESENTING, IN THE MORNING, THE EGYPTIAN RESPONSE TO THESE SPECIFIC IDEAS.

9. QUESTION: DID YOU SAY YOU THOUGHT THE ISRAELI IDEAS  
WERE SERIOUS? WE CAN'T HEAR YOU TOO WELL.

10. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: THE TALKS INDICATED WE WILL  
NEED SERIOUS AND HARD WORK TO TACKLE THESE ISSUES.

11. QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT THE ISRAELI IDEAS, HOW DID THEY  
STRIKE YOU?

12. ANSWER: AMBASSADOR BASHIR: WE WILL KNOW MORE ABOUT THAT  
TOMORROW.

13. QUESTION: DO YOU THINK THE ATMOSPHERE IN ISRAEL IN THE  
LAST DAY OR SO IS REFLECTED IN WHAT DR. KISSINGER IS  
PRESENTING? DO YOU GET ANY KIND OF REACTION LIKE THAT?

14. ANSWER: AMBASADOR BASHIR: I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE ISRAELI  
REACTION, I HOPE THEY ARE FORTHCOMING TOWARDS PEACE, AND I  
HOPE THAT WE FEEL FROM THEM AND SEE SIGNS THAT THEY ARE  
WILLING TO COME TO PEACE WITH EGYPT AND THE OTHER ARAB  
COUNTRIES ON ALL FRONTS.

UNQUOTE  
KISSINGER

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